(d) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to open new Medical Colleges in the State during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) There is no under graduate medical college in the State of Meghalaya at present. However, the North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong (NEIGRIHMS) is being set up as a super-speciality referral hospital for the North East Region with post-graduate teaching and research facilities.

(d) Presently, Government has no proposal to open a new medical college in Meghalaya.

Godowns of FCI

*297. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the existing number of Food Corporation of India godowns for storage of foodgrains, state-wise, location-wise and capacity-wise, separately as on 31st October, 1999; and

(b) the State-wise and location-wise details of FCI godowns for the said purpose proposed to be set up in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Plantation Programme by IFFCO in Sultanpur

†*298. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Plantation programme is being conducted by IFFCO in Sultanpur district of Uttar Pradesh;

†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of funds provided for the said programme, the actual expenditure and the plantation work done during the last three years;

(c) whether Government are aware that funds allocated for the said programme are being misused at a large scale;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to issue orders for audit of the expenditure incurred on this programme and take action against the persons responsible for misuse of funds; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) Although, IFFCO is not conducting any such programme, Indian Farm Forestry Development Cooperative Limited (IFFDC), a separate Multi-State Cooperative Society promoted by IFFCO for the purpose, is conducting afforestation programmes in the States of Uttar Pradesh (including Sultanpur), Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. For this purpose, the Village Level Primary Farm Forestry Cooperative Societies (PFFCS) are registered under the State Cooperative Laws of the state concerned, and are organizing the plantation programmes in their respective areas through their members who are landless, small, marginal and women farmers. The Govenrment is not providing any funds for these programmes. The programmes are being financed by India-Canada Environment Facility (ICEF) and IFFCO. No instance of misuse of funds has come to the notice of the Government. IFFCO is reimbursing the cost towards salary of its staff on deputation to IFFDC along with overheads. The staff is working at the village level and providing technical guidance and managerial support to the PFFCS. Expenditure incurred during 1.4.95 to 30.9.99 has been Rs. 24.94 crore. Details of plantation work done in the Sultanpur District are as under:

Financial Year	Land under Plantation (ha)	No. of Tree Planted (lakh)
1995-96	293.20	4.69
1996-97	372.41	5.63

Financial Year	Land under Plantation (ha)	No. of Tree Planted (lakh)
1997-98	554.62	5.84
1998-99	559.31	5.89
1999-00 (upto Sept.'99)	376.22	3.78
TOTAL	2155.76	25.83

(c) to (e) All expenditure incurred in this project is being audited by the respective State Cooperative Departments under whose jurisdiction the PFFCS have been registered. Besides, the Monitoring Mission appointed by India-Canada Environment Facility are also conducting their own audit. The audit of the IFFDC is also being done by the Auditors appointed by the Central Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Government of India, New Delhi. The Government does not propose to issue orders for any additional audited of the expenditure incurred on the programme.

Purchase of Paddy below Support Price

*299. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that paddy has been purchased by the FCI in Haryana at less than the fixed support price; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir. Paddy has not been purchased by the FCI in Haryana State at a price less than the minimum price fixed by the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.